

MTCS Teleconference May 25, 2000

Opening

Thirty offices participated in the call: Baltimore, Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbia, Denver, Fort Worth, Grand Rapids, Greensboro, Houston, Indianapolis, Jackson, Kansas City, Knoxville, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Miami, Minneapolis, New Jersey, New Orleans, New York, Oklahoma City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Puerto Rico, Richmond, San Antonio, Seattle, and TARC North.

PIC Coaches from some offices also joined the call.

Systems Update—Lori Feller

The national MTCS reporting rates are up to 93 percent for public housing and 97 percent for Section 8.

Sanctions—Mark Matulef

Field Offices received the list of PHAs subject to sanctions based on the June 1999 reporting rates. Field Offices requested that HUD grant appeals to a total of 14 PHAs that appear on the Section 8 Financial Management Center (FMC) sanctions list. Most appeals were very straight forward and HUD should approve them. For some appeals, Field Offices indicated that the PHAs sent in forbearance letters, but these Field Offices have not yet provided the letters to the Office of Public and Assisted Housing Delivery (PAHD). Jeanine Paquin will contact these Field Offices later today. HUD expects to provide decisions about approved appeals soon.

HUD plans to send Field Offices the December 1999 subject to sanctions list this week for your review. The list is shorter than the June 1999 list. PAHD would like to get this list to FMC shortly.

Q: Will the list include both Public Housing and Section 8?

A: Yes.

PHDEP money is available for PHA draw downs. If a PHA reports below 85 percent to MTCS and does not have forbearance the Field Office must put a LOCCS edit hold on the funds. This only applies to about 50 PHAs across the country. The revised Notice PIH 2000-13 Procedures Guidelines, which are under HUD review, contain the new procedures. HUD expects to post these Guidelines to the Web shortly. Check the Notice PIH 99-2 page for the updated Processing Guidelines at <http://www.hud.gov/pih/systems/mtcs/notice/pih99-2.html>.

MTCS 2000 and PIC—Johnson Abraham

The new MTCS 2000 will use XML technology. HUD's Office of Information Technology chose MTCS as pilot project to use this new technology because of XML's benefits and ease-of-use.

HUD held a successful conference on May 19th with vendors and PHAs. HUD presented the new XML tools to vendors. HUD received positive feedback from the participants.

Johnson stressed that HUD must develop core competencies in systems and that all systems—including HUDCAPS and DGMS—will eventually be integrated into the PIH Information Center (PIC) umbrella. As a result, there is no need for separate PIC Coaches and MTCS Coordinators. Johnson urged all the coordinators to sign-up as PIC Coaches. HUD will provide PIC Coaches training on June 12th for new coaches and June 13-15th (half-day on the 15th) for all coaches. Lis Hanson will send an e-mail about this as well so staff can travel to HQ and participate in the training.

Amy Johnson hosts a weekly conference call on Tuesdays from 3:00-4:00 (EST). During these calls PIC Coaches can exchange information, receive updates, and keep posted on PIC developments. The MTCS conference call will now be merged in with the PIC Coaches conference call. Once a month the call will focus on MTCS issues. We will continue to alert you via email of this call.

Q: Are PIC 2.0 and MTCS 2000 the same thing?

A: No. HUD will release PIC 2.0 the first week of June. In a month or month and a half MTCS will become part of PIC in the form of a module.

Q: Can you clarify the training dates?

A: June 12-15th. Some systems will not be available at this time so HUD will have the PIC Coaches come back again in July for additional training that will include MTCS.

Overall time frame (estimates):

First week of June	PIC 2.0 release, includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Unit and development information, as of 9/1999, which PHAs can update■ Unit collection tool
June 15	PIC 2.0 Event-based tracking system release, a Field Office management tool
July 15	OMB approval of redesigned Form HUD-50058
July 16	Redesigned Form HUD-50058 effective
July 31	PIC 2.0 release, includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ MTCS■ SEMAP
August	Refine PIC 2.0 systems
September	Implement PIC 2.0 refinements

September 30	Baseline PIC 2.0 system for new fiscal year
October 1	All training completed, PIC system complete with baseline data

A possibility exists to integrate the FO Directors into the PIH Teleconference call to reduce the number of conference calls in which Field Offices participate. Johnson plans to talk to Lis Hanson about this. If we do this, Harold Lucas may join in on some of the calls.

Q: How will HUD launch SEMAP with June 2000 PHAs?

A: Can you clarify?

Q: The new 50058 is part of this. PHAs will need transition time and reporting rates will fall below 85 percent. There will be data quality issues in the SEMAP indicators that come from MTCS.

A: The decision needs to be made at the Field Office level. Gloria Cousar requested that we implement the SEMAP system in July and that is what I will try to do. How we use and apply the system is within our control. We can provide exceptions, if necessary.

Johnson spoke about the PIC unit collection tool. PIC contains the basic information entered in September 1999. Now with the intersection of PIC and MTCS, HUD will have the detail on each unit in the PHA's developments, e.g., number of bedrooms, handicapped accessible. PHAs can provide data to the PIC unit collection module a number of ways:

- Enter data on-line
- Send HUD an ASCII file
- Send HUD an Excel or Lotus 1-2-3 spreadsheet

HUD plans to issue the Form HUD-50058 on July 16 based on OMB approval. The development and unit numbers required for Public Housing on the 50058 must match the unit information in PIC. These two systems will serve as a check and balance.

There is a need to discuss MTCS reports. HUD would like to produce the minimum number of reports to meet the needs of four unique audiences:

- Public Interest Groups
- PHAs
- Field Offices
- HUD Headquarters

In closing, Johnson announced that the E-Government Conference has chosen PIC as a best practice. The conference only selected 18 to 20 systems from among all of the Federal agencies.

51234—Mark Matulef

HUD is drafting a notice to clarify the occupancy data reporting policy. The notice will

transfer responsibility from paper form to electronic on-line submission. The notice also reinforces reporting policies and clarifies other events that cause PHAs to update information. The PIC PHA Profile system, available early June, will contain this information. If you would like to discuss the Notice, please contact Mark Matulef at: mmatulef@jbs1.com <insert link>.

Public Housing Reform Act (PHRA) Training—Sarah Gibson

HUD will staff a MTCS diagnostic clinic at the resident trainings:

June 26-28, Dallas, TX
June 28-30, Dallas, TX
July 17-19, Kansas City, MO
July 19-21, Kansas City, MO

If you would like a copy of the resident training handout, please e-mail Sarah Gibson at sarah_w._gibson@hud.gov.

HUD will also hold MTCS sessions at the PHA trainings:

August 2-4, Washington, DC area (**practice session for HUD staff**)
August 28-September 1, Atlanta, GA
September 18-22, Kansas City, MO

If you need additional information on the PHRA trainings, please go to the PHRA Training web page at http://www.hud.gov/pih/events/phra_training.html.

Closing—Lori Feller

Call participants are encouraged to participate in this afternoon's PIC Coaches conference call at 3 pm (EST). We will send out an email with the date and time of the next PIC Coach conference call that focuses on MTCS issues.